

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Canceled)

2. (Previously presented) In a spread spectrum communications integrated circuit receiver supplying combiner channel assignments for a plurality of demodulated information channels in a sample stream, a system comprising:

a combiner channel assignment input to accept combiner channel assignments; and

a plurality of demodulating fingers, wherein each demodulating finger has a sample stream input to accept a sample stream, a soft symbol output to supply soft symbols associated with demodulated information channels, and a combiner channel assignment output to supply combiner channel assignments for associated soft symbols, wherein the demodulating finger combiner channel assignment output assigns combiner channels to associated soft symbols in response to accepted combiner channel assignments.

3. (Original) The system of claim 2 wherein each demodulating finger further includes:  
at least one channel register having an input connected to the demodulating finger combiner channel assignment input to accept combiner channel assignments and an output connected to the demodulating finger combiner channel assignment output to supply stored combiner channel assignments.

4. (Original) The system of claim 3 wherein each demodulating finger demodulates a plurality of information channels; and

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